

CLAIMS

1. Neutral electrode for HF surgery, comprising
at least one electrically conductive section (2), which
5 can be brought into contact with a section of a
patient's body, characterized in that the neutral
electrode (1) comprises circulation-promoting means that
enhance blood flow at least through the body section
that is in contact with the section (2).
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2. Neutral electrode according to Claim 1, characterized in
that the at least one section (2) is coated with a
conductive gel to improve the contact between the at
least one section (2) and the section of the patient's
15 body.
3. Neutral electrode according to Claim 1 or 2,
characterized in that the circulation-promoting means
comprise a substance (4) that contains a circulation-
20 promoting agent.
4. Neutral electrode according to one of the preceding
claims, in particular according to Claim 3,
characterized in that the at least one section (2) is
25 coated with the substance (4) that contains the
circulation-promoting agent.
5. Neutral electrode according to one of the preceding
claims, in particular according to Claim 3 or 4,
30 characterized in that the gel incorporates the substance
(4) that contains the circulation-promoting agent.
6. Neutral electrode according to one of the preceding
claims, in particular according to Claim 3 to 5,
35 characterized in that a carrier material (3) for holding

the conductive section incorporates the substance (4) that contains the circulation-promoting agent.

- 5 7. Neutral electrode according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the circulation-promoting means comprise elements (2, 2') that supply a stimulus current.
- 10 8. Neutral electrode according to one of the preceding claims, in particular according to Claim 7, characterized in that the elements that supply the stimulus current are disposed in such a way that the stimulus current flows between at least two sections (2, 2') within the neutral electrode (1).
- 15 9. Neutral electrode according to one of the preceding claims, in particular according to one of the claims 7 or 8, characterized in that the elements that supply the stimulus current comprise separate electrical connector devices (6) for connection to a current source.
- 20 10. Neutral electrode according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the circulation-promoting means comprise warmable elements (8).
- 25 11. Neutral electrode according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the circulation-promoting means comprise elements (9) that can be heated by supplying energy directly.
- 30 12. Conductive gel for application of a neutral electrode to a section of a patient's body, containing capsaicin or similar means for promoting circulation.